Editorial

Tanimoto, Jun
Interdisciplinary Graduate School of Engineering Sciences, Kyushu University : Professor

Kyaw, Thu
Department of Advanced Environmental Science and Engineering, Faculty of Engineering Sciences, Kyushu University : Associate Professor

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バージョン：

Editorial

Life is fast nowadays. It is super fast. In the hyper-connected world, things move and spread quickly. A new trend is emerging every day; or a new trend must be created in order to stay relevant. Globalisation is not ideal anymore, while several countries are about to promote it. 5G is a slow technology, yet many parts of the world don't even have 3G. How about the Covid pandemic? Several countries might be planning to roll out the n^{th} vaccine program. Forget about it. It is gone. Vehicles with combustion engines are not good for the environment. Everyone must drive an electric car (Tesla or BYD). But electric vehicles are too heavy, and we don't have enough quick charging stations. So, it is time for the hydrogen technology. One might argue that it has to be bicycles. The other might say our roads are congested, so flying cars are the future. You have to purchase yPhone n+1, because it is bigger, thinner and has a better camera. Global warming? It is time to think of global greening because of the excess CO_2 in the atmosphere which is a boom for plants. Internationalisation? Nope, it is inter-nationalisation. The list can go on endlessly, including body parts. One perspective of these ever changing trends is that they might be created and promoted by those who missed the previous opportunities or want to dismantle the establishment or those who wants more. There is nothing wrong with creating new opportunities, so long as it is beneficial for the ecosystem. However, we have to be sceptical for promotions like: Save water, drink beer. Push a country to continue fighting until the last man so that the weapon business can flourish. Thus, one should remember history to avoid serious tragedy and societal damage when hungering for new opportunities (driving forces).

Some people say that life is all about thermodynamics. Thermodynamics might explain the world's thirst for new trends. The 2^{nd} law of thermodynamics dictates that a driving force or temperature gradient is necessary to tap work from a heat reservoir. It further states that the entropy of an isolated system is increasing. Drastic changes promote chaos and lead to rapid entropy increase. Increasing entropy will lead to equilibrium where the driving force vanishes. Thus, a new driving potential is necessary. Sometimes, people just forget the driving potentials, leading to motivational issues and depression. Forgetfulness can reduce driving potentials and lead to repeating mistakes. For instance, blowing up the dam that provides cooling water to a nuclear plant might be acceptable, while even tactical nuke is under consideration in order to create new driving potentials, of course, gigantic business. One possible reason is that almost no one in the present days witnesses the tragedy of WWII and the politicians are turning a blind eye to history. Meanwhile, drastic changes will instigate increasing entropy and accelerate to equilibrium. Thus, it is important to consider the historical lessons in establishing new driving potentials so that we do not repeat the tragedy. Quickly attaining equilibrium will cause an endless demand for new potentials and results in chaos and unwanted side effects.

It is reasonable to argue that *EVERGREEN* also suffers from the forgetfulness and increasing entropy over the last year. The attention was on the CiteScore and the number of submissions. We can fairly say that *EVERGREEN* achieves reasonably well on these two targets (see Fig. 1 and 2). Researchers are citing *EVERGREEN* papers more than ever (Fig. 3). However, the SJR was down (Fig. 4), and *EVERGREEN* is now "Q3". There are several reasons behind this situation.

Obviously, SJR calculation is rather complicated, and one might not be able to predict it accurately. Apart from SJR, other indices seem fine, including the percentiles (Fig. 5). In fact, the percentiles of two subject categories improved, while the other two were down. Nevertheless, we opine that *EVERGREEN* lost out to "Q2" marginally last year. We feel rather encouraged and motivated with our progress. Our goal is to serve as a platform for the scientific community with quality publications in marching towards sustainable society. And it remains the same. Of course, we will sieve out the "forgetfulness" and hope to strive with less entropy production.

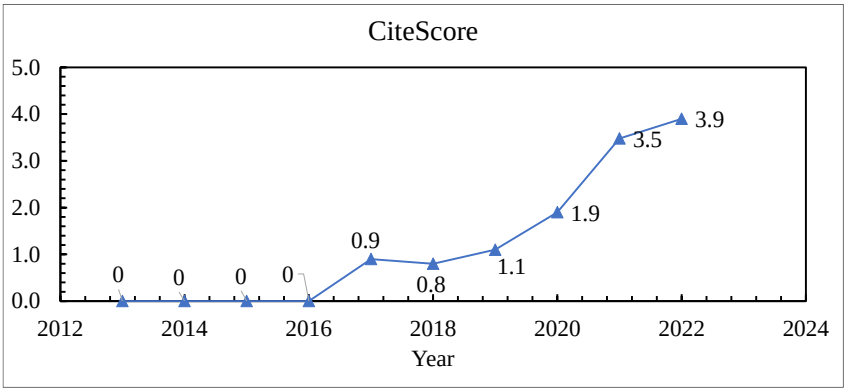

Fig. 1: The historical CiteScore of *EVERGREEN* (source Scopus)

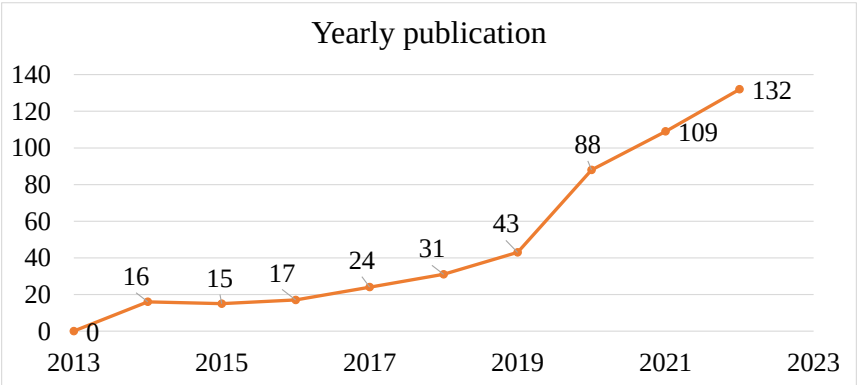

Fig. 2: Yearly publication of *EVERGREEN* since inception (source Scopus)

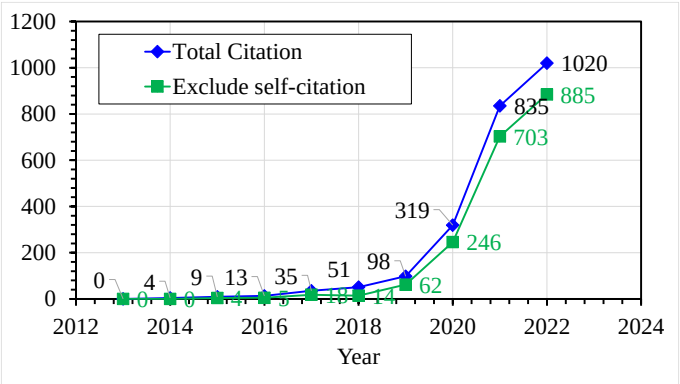

Fig. 3: Yearly citations of papers from *EVERGREEN* since inception (source Scopus)

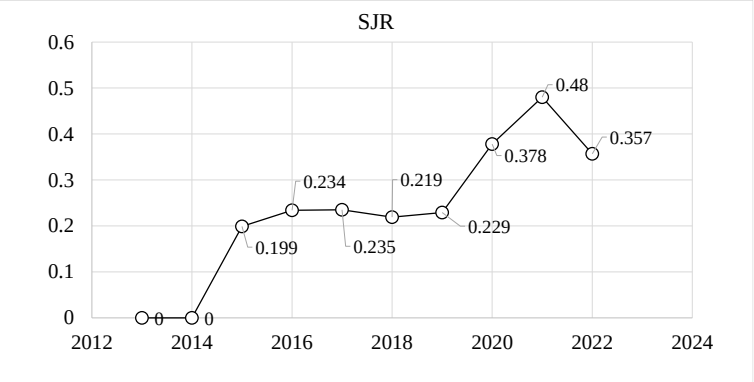

Fig. 4: Yearly SJR of papers from *EVERGREEN* since inception (source Scimago)

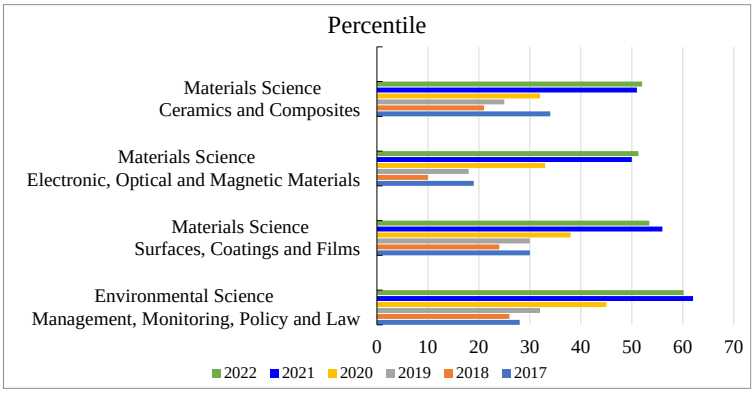

Fig. 5: Yearly subject percentiles of *EVERGREEN* since inception (source Scopus)

The editorial team is very pleased to publish *EVERGREEN* Vol. 10, Issue 02. This is the second publication in 2023. We have 39 original articles, and 18 special issue articles from the 6th International Conference on Advanced Production and Industrial Engineering (ICAPIE 2021). All articles cover a range of topics in social, material, surface, applied and computer sciences relevant to the sustainable society.

The success of *EVERGREEN* in the last year is attributable to our authors and support of the reviewers. We realised that our author-reviewer base is very strong. *EVERGREEN* would like to thank all of them for their continued support. We would like to acknowledge the support of the editorial and management teams. We thank Ms Mieko INOUE for her hard work over the last year at the Evergreen Secretariat. It is convincible that the editorial team understands the 2nd law of thermodynamics. We hope to establish a concrete goal (driving force), of course, we don't change it very often, and march towards it steadily (with a slow increase in entropy).

Yasaka-jinjya Shrine, Kyoto © Jun Tanimoto

Yasaka-jinjya is one of the most famous Shinto Shrines praying for calm-down of an epidemic, founded 7th century, which profoundly relates to Gion Festival, which is, nowadays, quite popular amind foreign tourists to see. We overcame many difficulties brought on by COVID-19, which was a tough challenge to our modern society. Now, it is said that we are in post-Corona Eara. Yet, after the severe turbulence imposed by COVID-19, we all know another worldwide crisis has come up, which is, let alone the Ukrainian war. When can we see a calm and peaceful world in our future? Who knows?

Jun Tanimoto (Editor-in-Chief)
Kyaw Thu (Executive Editor)

Evergreen - Joint Journal of Novel Carbon Resource Sciences & GreenAsia Strategy

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Jun Tanimoto, Dr. Eng
Professor
Interdisciplinary Graduate School of Engineering Sciences,
Kyushu University
6-1 Kasuga-koen, Kasuga-shi, Fukuoka 816-8580, Japan

Kyaw Thu, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Advanced Environmental Science and Engineering,
Faculty of Engineering Sciences, Kyushu University
Kasuga-koen 6-1, Kasuga-shi, Fukuoka 816-8580,Japan